

## **ARLINGTON PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINTUES**

*Tuesday, December 22, 2020*

*Approved 4-0 by the Commission on 1/12/2021*

The Town of Arlington Park and Recreation Commission came to order for its online virtual meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 at 7:05pm.

**Commission Members:** Leslie Mayer, Jen Rothenberg, Phil Lasker, Scott Walker, Shirley Canniff and Associate Member Scott Lever. Recreation Director Joe Connelly was also in attendance. Associate Member, Sarah Carrier, was not in attendance.

**Anticipated Speakers:** Jonathan Rabinowitz

**Members of the Public:** Susan Stein

**Preliminary Matter:** Mr. Connelly took formal attendance via a roll call. Mr. Connelly summarized a statement pertaining to Governor Baker's Public Meeting Law change due to COVID-19 regarding virtual meetings. Meeting business ground rules and procedures were also covered.

### **Open Forum – Public Comment**

N/A

### **Correspondence Received – Jonathan Rabinowitz**

Mr. Connelly reviewed correspondence received from Margit Griffith and introduced Mr. Rabinowitz.

Mr. Rabinowitz introduced himself and reviewed his preliminary request for the Commission to consider lighting the playground spaces in the darker months, specifically interested in McClennen Playground. Mr. Rabinowitz reviewed the positives of such action especially in these unprecedented times. Mr. Rabinowitz understands some of the obstacles but was looking for some preliminary feedback from the Commission.

The Commission members raised the following concerns:

- Precedent
- Safety
- Abutters
- Financial Concerns

The Commission discussed the need for a public process if this was to move forward. Mr. Rabinowitz stated that with innovation/design it may be something that can be discussed for future projects in the design phase. Mr. Connelly and Mr. Rabinowitz will look at what other communities have for lighting and report back to the Commission.

### **Capital Project Updates**

#### **CPA Application Discussion**

*Mr. Connelly and Ms. Mayer presented the current CPA requests and need to make a Commission decision on how to move forward with the new budgeted numbers by the December 28<sup>th</sup> application deadline. The Commission discussed various options on how to present their requests to both CPA and Capital for FY 22 through FY 24. Discussions included how to best design the Robbins Farm Slide and Playgrounds, the expense of Hurd Field and the value of a Turf field somewhere in Arlington with potential to be at Hurd, and the current state of the Menotomy Rocks Park Playground.*

*The Commission decided to recommend the following action:*

*1 – CPA request for Spy Pond Playground in FY 22 for \$490,000*

*2 – CPA request for Hurd Field Renovation minus add alternates for FY22 for \$1.5 million*

- *If approved look to maximize the funding for as many of the field improvements as possible including the add alternates*

*3 – Push back request for Robbins Farm Slide to FY 23 and slide up Full Robbins Playground Renovation to FY 23*

*4 – Push back request for Menotomy Rocks Park Playground to FY 24 and look at the true need in this location*

### ***KZLA Reservoir Phase II Timing Discussion***

The Commission discussed how to best time the Reservoir Phase II construction and reviewed two potential options from KZLA. The Commission also discussed how the work could potentially continue for some items in the scope such as bank stabilization and invasive species control while the beach was open. The Commission's concerns are:

- How not to impact 2021 beach operations
- Ease of operation so to attract the best contractors at the best price
- Maintaining continuity with KZLA

The Commission decided the best course of action was to bid the project in February and at the pre-bid meeting make sure to discuss the required project completion date including the necessity to keep the beach open for the summer of 2021 and the impact that will have on the contractors mobilization and work flow.

### ***Robbins Farm Slide Temporary Options***

The Commission discussed that with the pushing back of the slide replacement this allowed for a longer term temporary solution for the slide removal project. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

### ***Wellington Park***

Ms. Rothenberg updated the Commission on the renovation plans for Wellington Park and the proposed bid and construction schedule.

### ***Task Group Updates: Town Wide Playground, Mountain Biking, & Field Policy***

Mr. Connelly briefly reviewed the first Field Policy working group meeting.

### ***Recreation and Rink Updates***

Mr. Connelly discussed the impacts of the Covid 19 local and state restrictions on rink usage. Mr. Connelly stated that the Recreation Spring/Summer 2021 brochure was at the designer and hoped to be out to the public in mid-January,

### ***Approval of Minutes – 11/24/2020 & 12/08/2020***

The Commission reviewed both sets of minutes for the 11/24/2020 and 12/8/2020 meetings. Mr. Walker made amendments to both sets of minutes. The 11/24/2020 minutes were approved as amended 5-0 with a motion from Mr. Walker, seconded by Ms. Canniff. The 12/8/2020 minutes were approved as amended 5-0 with a motion from Mr. Laskar, seconded by Mr. Walker.

### ***Comments and Items for Future Meetings***

- None

### ***Other***

- N/A

Ms. Canniff motioned to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Ms. Rothenberg. Motion to adjourn the meeting was approved by Commissioners, 5-0, at 9:10 pm.

The Arlington Park & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes were respectfully submitted by Director of Recreation, Joseph Connelly.